

From the desk of Guy Case, J.D.  
Lansing, Michigan

TO: Michigan State Senate Government Operations Committee

FROM: Guy Case, J.D.

RE: Michigan House Bill 4271

DATE: March 11th, 2014

Mr. Chairman and Senators of the Committee,

I am a recent graduate of Thomas M. Cooley Law School, a citizen of the state of Michigan, a businessman, and a Michigan Medical Marijuana patient, and I'd like to express my gratitude to Senator Richardville and the entire Michigan State Senate Government Operations Committee for conducting this hearing. Mr. Chairman, you could have easily sat on the bill, but you made the right decision by allowing a hearing, and for this, you should be commended.

Ultimately, it appears that dispensaries in Michigan are a foregone conclusion --- in most of the other medical marijuana states, dispensaries are already operating under similar guidance as Michigan House Bill 4271 proposes. The citizens of these other states are afforded the public safety guaranteed by official state recognition of dispensaries; both the patients and the police are better off because of state regulation of dispensaries. To pass the buck to another crop of legislators by putting off 4271's passage would only be harming our citizens, literally.

Michigan House Bill 4271 is extensive, and provides the safeguards needed to regulate the sale and distribution of Medical Marijuana. As the committee is likely well aware, other states are seeing their tax revenues increase as a result of tourism booms - let's not let Michigan miss out on what other states are benefitting from; during tough economic times, our residents would benefit and so would our state coffers. After all, the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act already provides for reciprocity for visiting patients --- why not provide them dispensaries, as is apparent in the spirit of the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act as it was passed.

I support House Bill 4271 in its current form, but I would urge the Committee to make sure sections in the bill, particularly section five, allow for the safe passage of licensed Medical Marijuana dispensary agents through towns that do not allow dispensaries. The free flow of medicine throughout the whole state of Michigan is needed to facilitate safe access for all patients. Thank you for your time and for your support of 4271; the citizens support it.